

Mr. Speaker, baby boomers entering into the later stages of life will cause America's older population to double in the next few years. We must reform our health care system to adequately compensate doctors for providing preventative and coordinated care to patients in every stage of life. If we do it right, it will save money because many superfluous and harmful treatments will be eliminated and seniors will not only live longer but better lives.

HEALTH CARE BILL AN IMPEDIMENT TO JOB CREATION

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, many of my Republican colleagues and I have been coming down to this floor and asking the question, where are the jobs? Because the stimulus package has failed to deliver on the promise of 3 million jobs that it said it would, and instead our economy has actually lost over 3 million jobs.

And now we will soon be asked to vote on a health care reform package that places even more hurdles to jobs and growth of job creation. The health care plan being debated puts an onerous new tax on individuals and small business job creators through a surtax on income. It adds a new 8 percent tax on payrolls for companies that don't provide health care, Mr. Speaker.

Does anyone actually believe that the addition of this new tax will encourage job providers to either raise their workers' pay or to create new jobs when both of these actions actually lead to higher taxes?

In the rush to pass the stimulus, the Democrats put \$1 trillion of new debt on our children and on our grandchildren and did not create the jobs that we need. In our rush to pass a new health care bill, we will now put new hurdles to job creation and economic growth.

Where are the jobs? Clearly not in this new health care package.

THE RECOVERY ACT IS WORKING

(Mr. SCHRADER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, for the past couple of weeks, Members from the other side of the aisle have come to the floor, as we have heard today, and rhetorically asked, where are the jobs? Assertions have been made the Recovery Act was ineffective and hasn't created any jobs. Well, that simply isn't the case in my district. I would like to give one example, Mr. Speaker.

As Oregon families prepare to send their children back to school, let's talk about what the recovery dollars are doing in our local school districts, often the heart of our communities. In my district, recovery funds are saving the equivalent of 145 teaching and sup-

port jobs in one school district alone, the Salem/Keizer School District, in the 2009–2010 school year. These are positions that would have been eliminated without this critical funding and are crucial to the core academic growth and development of our students.

These same recovery dollars are also preventing the equivalent of a district-wide, class-size increase of 2½ students and preventing an 11-day reduction in the school year. Money well spent.

We don't spend enough time in this building talking about the jobs that are saved and families that are benefiting from these recovery dollars. Without the recovery package, more teachers would have lost their jobs and our students would have suffered.

SITTING ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Sammy Mahan is a small business entrepreneur. He owns and operates Sammy's Wrecker Service in Baytown, Texas. He owns 7 trucks, employs 5 drivers, a dispatcher, and people who work the wrecker yard. His drivers work on a commission, and he cannot afford to furnish them health insurance.

He told me how the new government health care plan that mandates employers provide employee health benefits would affect him. Leaving out his colorful language, he said, "I am worried to death. This government health care bill and the new taxes on energy and small business will ruin me. I will have to lay off my drivers. They're all young, some with young families, and then they will have no jobs. I will be the lone survivor of the business. Then I won't be able to sell the wreckers I can't use. Who would buy them? I will be putting the trucks on the side of the road next to the kids who have signs saying 'free kittens' and offering 'free wreckers.'"

Now, Sammy has a point. The government-run health care plan will cost jobs and put workers on the street or, shall we say, sitting on the side of the road.

And that's just the way it is.

THE GENOCIDE IN THE DARFUR REGION

(Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw awareness to the unconscionable human tragedy that is still taking place in the Darfur region. It has been 5 years since the United States Congress declared genocide in Darfur, but thousands continue to perish.

Today I join activists in 34 countries who started fasting in April when eight

organizations were kicked out of Darfur by the Sudanese President, leaving 1.1 million innocent civilians without basic access to food, water, and medicine.

From sunrise to sunset today, I will consume only water to demonstrate solidarity with the people of Darfur. It is an insignificant act relative to the magnitude of the tragedy unfolding there. But I join thousands in this simple act and hope that a critical mass will prick our global consciousness, keep us focused on the hundreds of thousands who have lost their lives.

I especially want to thank the Plymouth United Church of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, members of the Faith Darfur Coalition, who are joining me today.

My fast won't stop the tragedy unfolding in Darfur, but I hope it will carry me deeper into thought and to help me reflect on how to end this tragedy.

DON'T RUSH HEALTH CARE; GET IT RIGHT

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, health care is one of the most important issues that Congress will address this year. We need to make sure we take the time to get it right.

However, congressional leaders have other plans. Rather than taking the time to get it right, they want to spend another \$1.6 trillion on a government health care plan that includes \$500 billion in cuts in Medicare for seniors. And regardless of any arm twisting, no one can change the fact that this plan will slide our Nation deeper into debt. In fact, just 2 days ago, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office ascertained and confirmed that the proposed health care plan would cause a massive spike in the Federal budget deficit, adding as much as \$1.6 trillion over the next 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, more runaway deficits are something that Americans cannot afford. Let's reform our health care system the right way without raising taxes on small business and without adding new debt on our children and our grandchildren.

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, the time is now. Members on the party opposite say we need more time, slow down.

But what about six decades of demanding that we fix health care in America? What about the 45 hours of bipartisan debate in three separate House committees on this legislation? What about the 79 House hearings that we've had? What about those people who today face being turned down because they have a preexisting condition? What about those folks who got a